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(54) Title: ARTIFICIAL BEZOAR			
(57) Abstract An inflatable balloon (10) is placed in the stomach, to treat obesity by reducing appetite for food. The balloon can be inflated by liquid delivered to it by a supply line, (Fig. 1), by the gaseous reaction product of a chemical reaction within the balloon (Fig. 3) or by absorption of liquid through its semi-permeable wall (Fig. 4). The balloon is preferably piriform or ellipsoidal. Delivery to the stomach of the balloon (10) and supply line (13) by an overtube (14) with a closed smooth end presentation (16) is achieved by providing a fully-bounded side slit (17) in the overtube (14) from which the balloon (10) exists the overtube during its inflation. The balloon valve (11) and supply line (13) are preferably a mutual friction fit, enabling traction on the supply line alone to leave the balloon free-floating in the stomach following its inflation.			